



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/580,997

05/26/2006

Piero Andreas Madar

PU030323

7261

24498

7590

11/23/2009

Robert D. Shedd, Patent Operations

THOMSON Licensing LLC

P.O. Box 5312

Princeton, NJ 08543-5312

EXAMINER

VAUGHAN, MICHAEL R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2431

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

11/23/2009

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/580,997

**Applicant(s)**

MADAR ET AL.

**Examiner**

MICHAEL R. VAUGHAN

**Art Unit**

2431

**Period for Reply** -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 September 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/22)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **DETAILED ACTION**

The instant application having Application No. 10/580,997 is presented for examination by the examiner. Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 1, 5, 8, 12, 16, and 19 are amended.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 8, and 16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japan Patent Publication 2003-132624 to Tsurui in view of USP 5,895,124 to Tsuga et al., hereinafter Tsuga.

As per claims 1 and 8, Tsurui teaches a method and a digital recording and playback apparatus comprising:

enabling a user to record digital signals onto a digital storage medium in a first program chain for password protection (0030);

receiving a password from said user (0033);

storing said password on said digital storage medium in said first program chain with said selected recording title (0051); and

storing menu data representing a password menu screen on said digital storage medium in a second program chain different [collation PGC] from said first program chain (0042-46). The title is stored in PGC#10. Tsurui fails to explicitly teach the menu screen is in a single PGC. Tsuga teaches DVD menus can be stored in one or more PGCs. Therefore the password input menu of Tsurui could be stored in a single PGC within the DVD specification. Substitution of known methods which produce predictable results is within the ordinary capabilities of one of ordinary skill in the art. Therefore the claim is obvious because placing the password menu into a single PGC yields a predictable result. The invention would have still worked as designed.

As per claim 16, Tsurui teaches a digital storage medium, comprising:

a plurality of data fields [DVD standard] (0027); and

wherein said data fields comprise a first program chain [PGC#10] for storing a selected recording title and a user-assigned password for said selected recording title (0051), and a second program chain different [collation PGC] from said first program

chain for storing menu data representing a password menu screen (0042-46). Tsurui fails to explicitly teach the menu screen is in a single PGC. Tsuga teaches DVD menus can be stored in one or more PGCs. Therefore the password input menu of Tsurui could be stored in a single PGC within the DVD specification. Substitution of known methods which produce predictable results is within the ordinary capabilities of one of ordinary skill in the art. Therefore the claim is obvious because placing the password menu into a single PGC yields a predictable result. The invention would have still worked as designed.

As per claims 2, 9, and 17, Tsurui teaches the digital storage medium is a DVD (0030).

As per claims 3 and 10, Tsurui teaches the step of storing at least one command on said digital storage medium in said first program chain (0071).

As per claims 4 and 11, Tsurui teaches at least one command causes said password menu screen to be displayed if playback of said selected recording title is attempted (0040).

As per claims 5, 12, and 19, Tsurui teaches first program chains is also a single program chain according to DVD specification (0036, 0037, 0041).

As per claim 6, Tsurui teaches wherein said at least one command includes a PRE command according to DVD specification (0041).

As per claim 7, Tsurui teaches a step of requiring said password to be input before playing back said selected recording title (0051).

As per claim 13, Tsurui teaches at least one command includes a plurality of commands [chain leads to multiple other commands with there respective pre/post commands; 0042-0046].

As per claim 14, Tsurui a plurality of commands comprise PRE commands according to DVD specifications [chain leads to multiple other commands with there respective pre/post commands; 0042-0046].

As per claim 15, Tsurui teaches requiring said password to be input responsive to said password menu screen before playing back said selected recording title (0047).

As per claim 18, Tsurui teaches said first program chain also stores at least one command [PGC#10; 0046 and Figure 5b].

As per claim 20, Tsurui teaches at least one command causes said password menu screen to be displayed if playback of said selected recording title is attempted (0040) and input of said user-assigned password is required before playing back said selected recording title (0051).

### ***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL R. VAUGHAN whose telephone number is (571)270-7316. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, 7:30am - 5:00pm, EST. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Korzuch can be reached on 571-272-7589. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

Art Unit: 2431

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/M. R. V./

Examiner, Art Unit 2431

/William R. Korzuch/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2431